

GARY LOCKE
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • www.governor.wa.gov

March 18, 2003

John McKay
United States Attorney
U. S. Department of Justice
601 Union Street, Suite 5100
Seattle, WA 98101-3903

Dear Mr. McKay:

I urge you to utilize the \$5 million in fines owed to the Department of Justice by the Shell Pipeline Company LP and its partners to fund the King, Tsiornas, Wood Pipeline Safety Trust.

Many good efforts have been made by citizens, lawmakers, and state and local government officials to enhance pipeline safety in Washington State and across the country since the 1999 Bellingham tragedy. Nevertheless, public confidence in industry practice, regulation, and legislation remains low and establishing a mechanism for continued public involvement in policy change is critical. I believe the public would greatly benefit from the creation of a permanent, funded, non-profit organization providing public access to comprehensive technical and organizational resources.

I support the King, Tsiornas, Wood Pipeline Safety Trust because it will increase safety and environmental protection for interstate and intrastate pipelines through enhanced public participation; develop a long-term partnership of local communities, government and industry; and increase public confidence in pipeline systems.

Thank you for consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Locke".

Gary Locke
Governor

cc: Tom Fitzsimmons, Director, Department of Ecology

